

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 9, 2007. Claims 1 to 4 are pending in the application, with Claim 1 being in independent form. Claim 6 has been cancelled, and Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 1 to 4.

In this regard, Claims 1 to 4 were objected to based on alleged informalities. In particular, it was alleged that these claims are not sufficiently clear with respect to the nature of the optical tweezers. Furthermore, the Office Action suggested amending all occurrences of "optical tweezers" to --holographic optical tweezers--, and of "first base" to --holographic first base--.

The term "first base" has been amended to --holographic first base-- in the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection with respect to this term is respectfully requested.

However, the foregoing objection is traversed with respect to the term "optical tweezers". In particular, this term is not necessarily seen to be described throughout the specification as "holographic". Furthermore, the description of the tweezers as "optical" is seen to be sufficiently clear with respect to the nature of the tweezers.


Claim 6 was under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over "Multi-functional Optical Tweezers Using Computer-generated Holograms" Optics Communications, North-holland Publishing Co. Amsterdam, NL, 2000 (Liesner). Claim 6 has been rejected without

prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of its rejection. Thus, the § 102(b) rejection is seen to be obviated.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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